

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, line 4, please insert the following:

This application is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/535,235, filed on March 24, 2000, by Craig A. Finseth, Jeffrey A. Brown, and Philip E. Hsiao, and entitled "CATEGORIAL ELECTRONIC PROGRAM GUIDE", attorney's docket number PD-990199.

On page 1, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 10 and substitute the following therefor:

Application Serial No. ~~09/535,235~~, 09/536,075, entitled "ELECTRONIC TELEVISION PROGRAM GUIDE WITH CALENDAR TOOL," filed on ~~same date herewith~~, March 24, 2000, by Philip E. Hsiao, Jeffrey A. Brown, and Craig A. Finseth, attorney's docket number PD-990198.

On page 5, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 3 and substitute the following therefor:

One method of delivering the electronic program guide is a satellite- based electronic program guide delivery system 20. This satellite based system includes transmission station 26, uplink dish 30, satellite 32, and receiver stations 34A-34C (collectively referred to as receiver stations 34). Transmission station 26 includes a plurality of input lines 22 for receiving various signals, such as analog television signals, digital television signals, video tape signals, original programming signals and computer generated signals containing Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) content. Additionally, input lines ~~22~~ 23 receive signals from digital video servers having hard discs or other digital storage media. Each input line 22 typically corresponds to a single television channel. Transmission station 26 also includes a plurality of schedule feeds 24, which provide electronic schedule information about the timing, content, and transmission channels of various television programs. The electronic schedule information from schedule feeds 24 is converted into program guide data by transmission station 26.

On page 16, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 1 and substitute therefor:

Access card 88 is removable from receiver 64 (as shown in FIG. 2 3). When inserted into receiver 64, access card 88 is coupled to access card interface 90, which communicates via interface 82 to a customer service center (not pictured). Access card 88 receives access authorization information from the customer service center based on a user's particular account information. In addition, access card 88 and the customer service center communicate regarding billing and ordering of services.

On page 22, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 5, and substitute therefor:

A connection between certain organizational categories 92 (shown in FIG. 5) is indicated by a series of line connectors 104. Although the spatial placement of the organizational categories 92 next to the program titles 94A indicate this connection, the line connectors 104 produce a visual effect which helps to indicate to the user what series of organizational categories 92 each program title 94 belongs to. Additionally, color coding may be used to achieve the same result. Different organizational paths can be assigned different colors. For example, in FIG. 5 4, the second-level organization using the topical subject of "Mysteries" can be indicated using the color green, and news can be indicated using the color yellow. The third-level organization which distinguishes between mysteries and news programs being shown now and next hour can be indicated using different shades of green and yellow. Thus, under "Mysteries", all the program titles associated with "Now" are shaded dark green, and all the program titles associated with "Next Hour" are shaded light green. Using a color coding system can also allow the elimination of displaying the organizational categories 92 in a text format. For instance, an alternative embodiment of FIG. 5 FIGs. 4 & 5 eliminates the second regions ~~98A-98B~~ 98A-98F and the third regions ~~100A-100D~~ 100A-100I as well as line connectors 108. Different shades of organizational colors are used to represent organizational categories 92. By presenting the user with the key to the color coding scheme, the user is able to associate the program titles 94 to organizational categories 92 by using the spatial grouping of the program titles 94 in the program title regions ~~102A-102D~~ 102A-102I, and by using the organizational colors. This type of embodiment, where the text name of the organizational categories 92 is not displayed, is further discussed with respect to FIG. 8.

On page 32, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 26 and substitute the following therefor:

FIGs. 12A-12B are flowcharts presenting illustrative method steps used to practice another embodiment of the present invention. An input stream of program content and electronic program guide data is received, as shown in block 1202. The electronic program guide data is then separated from the input stream and stored, as shown in blocks 1204 and 1206. A display is then generated from the electronic program guide data, as shown in block 1208. The display includes a plurality of program titles and a plurality of organizational categories, each program title belonging to at least one of the organizational categories. The program titles are arranged in the display so that the program titles that belong to the same organizational categories are spatially adjacent and program titles that are not members of the same organizational categories are spatially separated. This is illustrated in block 1210. A first level organization is created through the organizational categories, as shown in block 1212. The overall content of the program guide is defined through this first level organization, as shown in block 1214. A second level organization is then created through the organizational categories, as shown in block 1216. Then, as shown in block 1218, the program titles are defined having a spatial separation using the second level organization. As shown in blocks 1220 and 1222, the organizational categories may be time, channel, topic, or actor based, and can be arranged at any organizational level.